

Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 17

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NUMBER 1



UCC President To Retire

The Rev. Ben Mohr Herbst, a champion of peace, racial justice and Christian unity, announced he will retire as president of the two-million-member United Church of Christ, on October 1, 1969.

Dr. Herbst made his announcement at a meeting of the 21-member Executive Council of the denomination.

Dr. Herbst was elected the first
(Continued on Page 3)

Bonanza Church Is Received Into UCC

The Bonanza United Church of Christ, near Jonesboro, Georgia, was received into the Georgia-South Carolina Association, Sunday, November 3.

With Dr. J. H. Dollar, pastor-at-large of the East Alabama Association, preaching on the subject, "I Salute the Church," the Reverend Edward A. Driscoll declared the church to be received into the Association and warmly commended the fellowship of the United Church of Christ to the congregation. Driscoll is past moderator of the Association.

(Continued on Page 3)

HOW WILL YOU VOTE?

When your church asks you to decide about your giving

In the coming year I will give:			
+	☐ more	A vote for the church to attempt more ministries in Christ's name	!
=	☐ same	A vote for the church to do a little less due to inflation	!
—	☐ less	A vote for the church to cut back on its work with people	!

Probably the only way you can cast a "more" vote is to spend less on yourself. Before you vote think about Christ's self-offering love, the desperate needs of millions of your fellow humans, and your own circumstances as an American Christian. Consider General Synod's suggestion that each member of the United Church of Christ give at least 5% of his income through his church. Then think again about your vote.

Stewardship Council, United Church of Christ

*In the light of what God has done for you in Christ Jesus,
in the light of the mission that God has given your congregation — why did you vote as you did?*

Chattanooga Churches Vote For Self-Study

First Church, Chattanooga, and Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, have both voted unanimously to conduct a self-study to explore ways in which they might join in a common ministry for the United Church in Chattanooga.

For Pilgrim Church, Sherwood Landrum was designated chairman for the self-study; for First Church, Wallace Roberson is chairman.

Minister of First Church is Horace Traylor, while the minister of Pilgrim is Arnold Slater.

News From New Hope

The New Hope Congregational Church of Clio, Alabama, is showing much interest and progress under the leadership of Dr. F. C. Lester. Services are being held each Sunday and the congregation is displaying great enthusiasm — the prospects for growth look good, according to a report from the church.

Plans are being made for improving the buildings and grounds. A play and recreation area will be developed.

Evergreen Church Plans Year's Work

The Evergreen Congregational Church at Beachton, Georgia, has its church services on the second and fourth Sundays at 12 noon. Sunday School is held each Sunday at 11 a. m. On every third Sunday they participate in a Sunday School union with four other churches.

Business meetings come on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in each month.

New officers for the church were elected in October.

The Harvest Home Festival will be in November, and the Community Christmas Tree at Beachton Church on Christmas Day. A program and gifts for older folks and children are planned. Sunrise service comes at Easter, Women's Day in May, and Men's Day in June, with the Sunday School picnic in July and the revival in September.

They hope to attend more of the conferences and pay OCWM for 1969.

Ladies of the community have a quilting party and send the quilts to Hope United Church, St. Louis, Mo., for sale.

Birmingham Church Hosts Red Cross Youth

The Pilgrim Congregational Church in Birmingham, Alabama, was the setting for a Red Cross Leadership Conference, October 12.

Aimed at enriching students in action leadership skills and determining areas of service, the conference was for junior and senior high school students.

A number of participants state that they were happy to see a church open its doors for worthwhile, yet non-church activities such as the Red Cross Conference.

Miss Betty Graham and Larry Quinn served as church representatives to the conference.

The Red Cross anticipates conducting a similar conference at Pilgrim Church in the spring of 1969.

The Reverend S. L. Johnson is pastor.

The Pastor Is A Fisherman

The Reverend Joe A. French, pastor of the LaGrange United Church of Christ, made the front cover of The Callaway Beacon October 8. The scene — a quiet lake, the pastor, a fishing rod, and a fish. The smiling pastor was removing the fish from the line.

The cover story indicated that it was the first fish that he had caught in a number of years. The Reverend Mr. French made the catch at a fishing outing sponsored by the Callaway Ministerial Association.

Church Seeks Pews

The Beachton, Evergreen, Church near Thomasville, Georgia, is interested in securing some new pews for the church. They should be approximately eight feet in length, and the church needs 16 pews. The pews should be straight and not circular. This church is interested in renovating their sanctuary, and the pews would be of considerable help. The old pews are in bad condition, having been in use for a long time.

If anyone would like to help provide pews for the Beachton Church, he should write to:

Mrs. Narvella Hadley
Route 3, Box 198
Thomasville, Georgia 31792

Two Churches Have Purchased New Organs

The Congregational Church at Talladega, Ala., recently hosted the Alabama - Mississippi Association. The members of the Association enjoyed the new Hammond organ which the church recently purchased. Meeting in the newly redecorated sanctuary, the Association found it easy to conduct the affairs of the Association, and concluded with a worship service which was enhanced by the use of the organ. E. J. Marbury Jr. serves as the lay minister of the church.

The First Congregational Church in Birmingham also recently purchased a new organ. The dedication service is set for Sunday, November 10, at the 11 o'clock service, and an organ concert will be given that afternoon at 3 o'clock by John Marberry, head of the Music Department of Judson College at Marion. Rev. Andrew L. Cooper is the pastor.

NEWS FROM UPLANDS

In early September the Reverend H. Wayne Peck, Administrator of Uplands, was elected president of the Tennessee Association of Homes for the Aging at the annual meeting of the Association. The Association is composed of administrative staff members of some 20 church-related, non-profit homes for the aging.

UPLANDS SERVES COMMUNITY

From the beginning of Dr. May Cravath Wharton's ministry to the medical needs of the people of Pleasant Hill and the surrounding countryside in 1922, community service has been the watchword of Uplands. Today many phases of the work of Uplands are oriented to the needs of the people of the area. These services include: Out-Patient Clinic, Thrift Shop and Child Care Center.

NEW DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Miss Mary Bruce Roberts arrived in Pleasant Hill to join the staff as director of Social Services and head resident and hostess at Van Dyck. Her work will bring her in close touch with residents of Uplands and with patients who come to the clinics.

UCC PRESIDENT . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

president of the United Church at its constituting synod in 1961. He was re-elected to a second four-year term in 1965.

In the eight years of his presidency, Dr. Herbster has traveled back and forth across the nation as a pastor to the whole church, preaching in its parishes and serving as a bridge between the two denominations that united to form the United Church.

He is a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, the General Board of the National Council of Churches, the executive committee of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the executive council of the International Congregational Council.

His dedication to the cause of racial justice, from which he has never wavered, was pointed up at the 1963 General Synod of the church when he asked for permission to interrupt the regular order of business to speak about the crisis in the nation.

"Few times in our lives have we faced a greater responsibility than we face now," he told the delegates. "The present situation across America, in the way in which our Negro brethren are treated, economically, politically and socially, constitutes a blight from which we must be saved.

"This blight must be eradicated," he said. "Eradicated now!"

In his quest for a lasting peace, Dr. Herbster serves as a member of the Advisory Committee on Peace of the National Council of Churches. He has always viewed the prospects of peace in light of racial justice and a strong united church of Jesus Christ.

Born in Prospect, Ohio, Dr. Herbster is a graduate of Heidelberg College and Central (now Eden) Theological Seminary. He did graduate work at Ohio State University, McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, and at Chicago Theological Seminary.

He has been awarded a doctor's degree by five colleges.



REV. L. FLOYD CARMACK
BONANZA CHURCH . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

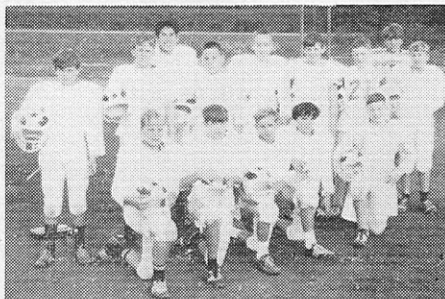
The Rev. Edward M. Brown led the congregation in a prayer of thanksgiving. The Conference Minister, the Rev. William J. Andes, welcomed the church into the Conference and the denomination.

The pastor, the Rev. L. Floyd Carmack, led the service of worship. During the past two years, he and his wife have been instrumental in organizing the church.

The Carmacks have been deeply involved in the Bonanza community. He has been instrumental in forming a Civic Club and in developing a recreational program for the youth of the area. Mrs. Carmack has opened their home to the many meetings that led to the formation of the church, and at the same time, served as leader of the church school.

The church now has 77 members, with an average attendance of 90.

Mr. Gary Furlong is the moderator of the newly organized church and also serves as coach of the boys' football team of the church. The congregation has been active in every community function.



Junior High Youth Meet At Sweetwater

More than 100 junior high youth and adult advisors participated in a one-day rally, Saturday, October 5, at the Sweetwater United Church of Christ, Sweetwater, Tennessee.

With initial planning done by United Church Youth (senior high) of Tennessee, the program was centered around workshops appropriate for junior high youth: "Family Problems," "Smoking and Drinking," "Making Friends," and "Boy and Girl Relationships." These were led by Rev. John Roemer, Miss Yubenia Prigmore, Mrs. Frankie Blakeley, and Rev. Emilie Pitcock.

With about half of the participants coming from United Presbyterian churches of the area, it was decided to set up a Steering Committee to think through possible future events involving youth of the two denominations.

A Continuing Tragedy

A tragedy continues to destroy the lives of thousands of Biafrans — the tragedy is massive starvation.

Church World Service, acting on behalf of its supporting denominations, will continue to meet human need in the area. In the Nigeria-Biafra emergency, Church World Service has met and continues to make every effort to reach victims of the civil war on both sides of the line.

James MacCracken, Executive Director of Church World Service, said, "The Nigerian-Biafran tragedy cannot under any circumstances be viewed as a crisis of limited duration, but must be seen and understood as a 'long haul'." If peace comes today, tomorrow, or next month, the churches will face an enormous problem in attempting to cope with the misery of a shattered humanity that has gone through, and will continue to go through, starvation, illness and death on a mass scale."

Interested In A Tour Of The Holy Land?

The Reverend Allen B. Hollis Jr., pastor of the United Church in Langdale, Alabama, is working for a firm which organizes tours of the Holy Land.

For tour information, write him at 2400 65th Street, Langdale, Alabama 36864.

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The Southeast News

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Two German Pastors Visit SE Conference

Superintendent Gunther Brandt of West Berlin, Germany, and Pastor Manfred Brunotte of Essen, Germany, visited in the Southeast Conference October 3-10, 1968. These two were part of a study tour of ministers from the Evangelical Church of the Union in Germany, visiting the United States on an exchange program worked out by the Council for Church and Ministry of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

While in Atlanta, they visited the Interdenominational Theological Center, met with Dr. Homer C. McEwen, pastor of First Congregational Church, and had a conference with Mr. Franklin Thomas, Executive Director of Butler St. YMCA. They visited the new site for the YMCA Housing Development, took a tour of adjoining slum areas, and visited with national O. E. O. and Civil Rights leaders. They toured the West End Neighborhood, met with leaders of the Metropolitan Atlanta Summit Leadership Congress and with graduate students of Atlanta University School of Social Work. They visited Wesley Woods, a Methodist Retirement Center, and Central Congregational Church.

From Atlanta they were guests at the North Alabama Association and the Ala.-Tenn. Association. Mr. Brandt spoke at the Cullman Church, while Mr. Brunotte spoke at Belvidere and Huntsville Churches.

One of the highlights of their visit was a tour of NASA, National Aeronautical Space Administration, at Huntsville, made possible by members of the Huntsville church.

While in Nashville, they saw our churches, the North Nashville project as developed by Howard Church, Vanderbilt University, Fisk University, and other institutions and programs in Nashville.

Our appreciation goes to all of our ministers and lay people who made the visit of our German pastors so noteworthy.

Hillside, LaGrange, Reports

The Hillside Church in LaGrange, Georgia, reports 21 new additions to its membership in 1968. Of these, 17 came on profession of faith and 4 by Letter of Transfer. The Hillside Church con-

Jewel Woodard Simon Has Art Exhibit

Jewel Woodard Simon, wife of E. L. Simon and member of our First Church, Atlanta, is having a month's exhibit of some of her work in the Jewish Community Center, Atlanta.

Mrs. Simon, a native of Houston, Texas, was graduated from Atlanta University, summa cum laude. Her interest in art started as a hobby and led to study with many independent artists and Atlanta University. She also holds a Certificate of Graduation from Art Instruction, Inc., and a Bachelor of Fine Art degree from Atlanta School of Art.

She has exhibited extensively and has won many first prizes in oils, water color and sculpture, particularly at Atlanta University Annual Art Exhibition. She has had her art exhibited in Texas, New York, California, Leipzig, Germany, Leningrad and Moscow, as well as Atlanta.

Mrs. Simon is included in several books and publications, and some are: "American Negro Art" by Cedric Dover; "Prints by American Negroes" by California Cultural League; and the Negro in American Art," UCLA Art Galleries, Registry of Living Artists.

Mr. Simon is director and general auditor of Atlanta Life Insurance Co. They are the parents of Edward Jr., a photographer in the U. S. Naval Air Force, and Margaret Jewel, a student at Massey Business College.

Included in the current showing are: 62 oils, 10 water colors, 74 prints, including the following processes—serigraph, pen and ink, tempora, collagraph, pen, brush and ink, charcoal, lithograph, woodcut, pencil, linoleum block, water color, collage, cribble, aquatint, serigraph over woodcut, designer color, and ink, a total of 146.

Many of her works are included in private collections throughout the United States, Sierra Leone, Africa, Cuyana, Georgetown, and Wellington, New Zealand.

tinues to be a thriving church and of great service to the community.

The Rev. Roy Chatham has just begun his 22nd year there as pastor of that church. His work and his ministry continue to be of great importance, not only in LaGrange, but also throughout the East Alabama Association.

With Strong Allies, UCC Continues Fight For Justice

Eighteen religious, civil rights, labor and civic organizations and 10 members of Congress have joined United Church of Christ agencies in urging the Federal Communications Commission to issue a rule banning discrimination in hiring by radio and television stations.

The Department of Justice and the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights have also strongly supported the petition by the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, Committee for Racial Justice and Office of Communication that licenses not be granted to stations that discriminate and that evidence of non-discriminatory employment policies be furnished annually to the F. C. C.

Among other organizations that have filed statements in support of the UCC position are: the National Council of Churches, U. S. Roman Catholic Conference, American Jewish Committee, NAACP; NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the following UCC conferences: Intermountain, Iowa, New Hampshire, Penn Central, Vermont, Wisconsin, and the Western Reserve Association of Ohio.

First CC Church, Atlanta, Holds Missionary Tea

The First Congregational Church, Atlanta, Georgia, held its annual Missionary Tea on November 10.

The tea, a major effort of the church in meeting its OCWM commitment, featured the mission efforts of the denomination, especially in the United States, and the social service agencies with which members of the church work.

The theme for the tea was "To Them That Are Near."

The Reverend Homer C. McEwen is pastor.

PERSONALS

REV. ROBERT SAUNDERS reports that he is resigning his pastorate in Pittsfield, Maine, to become associate minister of Central Congregational Church, Topeka, Kansas.

REV. AND MRS. ARNOLD SLATER attended a meeting of the Executive Council in East Lansing, Michigan, Oct. 14-16.

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION - BASIC SUPPORT ONLY

	1968 OCWM Goals	Paid Thru 10/31/68	FLORIDA			MISSISSIPPI		
ALABAMA			Baker, Good Hope	100.00	100.00	Tougaloo, Union	252.00	175.00
Alpine, King's Chapel	85.00	30.00	Baker, Pyron's Chapel	50.00	0	SOUTH CAROLINA		
Andalusia, Antioch	87.00	0	Bonifay, New Effort	100.00	0	Charleston, Circular	1,125.00	189.25
Andalusia, First	100.00	0	GEORGIA			Charleston, Plymouth	326.00	200.00
Arley, Robertson's Chapel	35.00	20.00	Ambrose, Christian	13.00	20.00	TENNESSEE		
Athens, Trinity	150.00	0	Atlanta, Carroll Hts.	25.00	0	Belvidere, United	2,518.00	600.00
Birmingham, First	1,142.00	472.95	Atlanta, Center (Inactive)	130.00	0	Chattanooga, First	306.00	47.00
Birmingham, Pilgrim	1,804.00	394.20	Atlanta, Central	5,094.00	5,416.68	Chattanooga, Pilgrim	5,656.00	3,320.00
Birmingham, St. John's	1,071.00	183.30	Atlanta, First	4,200.00	1,000.00	Crossville, First	847.00	407.50
Brantley, Indian Creek	50.00	0	Atlanta, Rush Mem.	400.00	0	Daisy, Cong'l	300.00	0
Brantley, Liberty	50.00	0	Barnesville, Fredonia	483.00	200.00	Deer Lodge, Cong'l	255.00	68.22
Caddo, C. C.	163.00	200.00	Baxley, Friendship	50.00	0	Glen Mary, Cong'l	109.00	70.00
Clio, New Hope	130.00	100.00	Beachton, Evergreen	130.00	100.00	Knoxville, First	270.00	270.00
Cullman, St. John's	1,039.00	519.95	Bowman, Liberty	56.00	28.55	Nashville, Brookmeade	900.00	200.00
East Tallassee, C. C.	550.00	375.00	Braselton, Macedonia	60.00	60.00	Nashville, First E & R	2,474.00	2,275.00
Eclectic, Watson's Chapel	50.00	0	Bonanza, United	39.65	0	Nashville, Fisk Union	300.00	0
Garden City, Cong'l	240.00	180.00	Bristol, Antioch	50.00	0	Nashville, Howard	423.00	211.50
Hackleburg, Fairview	100.00	0	Buford, Duncan's Creek	100.00	0	Pleasant Hill, Community	952.00	950.00
Haleyville, Union Grove	100.00	0	Columbus, First	390.00	0	Robbins, Barton Chapel	160.00	140.00
Hanceville, Mt. Grove	100.00	30.00	Columbus, United	65.00	50.00	Soddy, First (Inactive)	260.00	0
Headland, Blackwood	582.00	275.97	Crest, Hebron	25.00	0	Sweetwater, First	163.00	168.00
Houston, Liberty Hill	50.00	0	Demorest, Federated	403.00	300.00	Total OCWM—Basic Support		
Huntsville, United	2,107.00	569.65	Doerun, New Light	25.00	0	Thru 10-31-68	\$33,603.05	
Marion, First	80.00	75.00	Doerun, Poplar Arbor	50.00	0			
Midland City, Chr. Hill (Inactive)	33.00	45.20	Douglas, First	100.00	0			
Montgomery, First	484.00	562.00	Enigma, Christian	100.00	0			
Montgomery, United	811.00	0	Gaillard, Pleasant Hill	47.00	0			
Moulton, Jones Chapel	75.00	0	Hampton, County Line	60.00	0			
Mtn. Creek, Union	50.00	0	LaGrange, United	1,320.00	833.05			
Selma, First	78.00	23.00	Macon, First	110.00	0			
Seman, Community	50.00	0	Meansville, First	50.00	0			
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	52.00	48.00	McIntosh, Midway	65.00	0			
Tallassee, Mt. Olive	125.00	125.00	Pearson, Union Hill	265.00	0			
Talladega, United	72.00	100.00	Richland, First	33.00	0			
Town Creek, Old Liberty	75.00	0	Richland, Providence Chapel	50.00	0			
Wetumpka, Balm of Gilead	53.00	0	Savannah, First	390.00	242.82			
			Thomasville, Bethany	50.00	61.00			
			Tifton, Vanceville	100.00	0			
			Waycross, Williams Chapel	260.00	202.50			
			Woodbury, Jones Chapel	39.00	0			
East Alabama Assn. Churches	** 11,148.11		KENTUCKY					
			Evarts, First	500.00	180.00			
			Stearns, Community (Inactive)	50.00	0			

NOTE: Above total shows OCWM received in Conference Office from JAN. 10, 1968 - OCT. 31, 1968. Part of above receipts were credited to 1967 OCWM.

**The churches of the East Alabama Association have their own goals and make their OCWM contributions through the Association.

The Conference books will be closed as of January 10, 1969 for 1968. Gifts to be credited to 1968 should be received in the Conference office before January 10, 1969.

New Hope Church Has Laity Sunday

In keeping with the denominational observance of Laity Sunday, October 13, the morning service at New Hope Church, Route 1, Clio, Alabama, was led by lay people.

The Church School superintendent, John Davis, gave the message. Mesdames Harmon Nolin, Eugene Teal, Ralph Kelley, Horace Teal, and Harmon Hagler each interpreted a section of the Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ.

Following congregational reading of this Statement of Faith, Mrs. John W. Shiver led in prayer. Ushers were Mrs. John Davis and Mrs. Miles Easterling. The interim pastor, Rev. F. C. Lester, and the church delegate, Mrs. Bennett Teal, shared in the South Alabama Association that Sunday, as did Mr. and Mrs. Yosuke Yamamori, daughter and son-in-law of Mr. Lester.

The Enigma Of Life

by Harold H. Thomas

Life is a riddle, a puzzling question, and the eternal question is "What can we do to solve it?" The ancient Greeks had an expression in the market place over the Parthenon which read, "Man Know Thyself." Thousands of years have failed to remove the need for this phrase. We are still prone to put enhanced values upon ourselves and to devalue others. Nearly every person sets himself up as a sort of central sun around which everything else must rotate. Thus, egotism or over-valuation of self has done more to hold back progress of the world than anything else.

Verily every family quarrel, every economic or spiritual failure, indeed every war is traceable to over-estimation on the part of some person or group of persons. There is an old adage—"If one could be bought for what he is worth and sold for what he thinks he is worth, a great profit could be realized." This seems to be true with all of us humans.

The challenge to students and all serious thinking individuals is to study now to solve this enigma, this riddle of life.

REMINDERS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP Council

... that local churches include in 1969 budgets an amount equal to from one percent to five percent of current local expenses for the Crisis in the Nation program. For resources and suggestions see "Building the Budget" in the Council's fall packet.

... that churches which have not conducted a Christian Enlistment campaign use November and December to plan for an Enlistment in January or February. For resources, see the fall packet.

... that churches which have not participated in the Neighbors in Crisis fall offering consider doing so during the Thanksgiving season. Materials for the fall offering have been ordered by 3,000 congregations. To order, use card in fall packet or write for sample materials to Stewardship Council, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

First Church, Birmingham, To Build New Unit

The firm of Turner & Batson, specialists in church architecture, has been employed to begin work on plans for a new educational unit at First Congregational Christian Church, Birmingham.

A Youth Fellowship for Juniors has just been organized, and 52 youths have enrolled. This group meets at the church every Thursday and is sponsored by the Angola Guild.

What's Holding Back My Church?

Three thousand for my brand new car;
Five thousand for a piece of sod,
Ten thousand I paid to begin a house,
A dollar I gave to God.
A tidy sum to entertain
My friends in pointless chatter,
And when this world goes crazy mad
I ask, "Lord, what is the matter?"
Yet there is one big question
For the answer I will search,
With things so bad in this old world,
What's holding back my church?

—from Pilgrim's Progress Newsletter
Birmingham, Alabama

You Still Have A Chance To Nominate Denominational Officials

The Nominating Committee of the United Church of Christ, which will report at the Seventh General Synod at Boston in 1969, seeks and welcomes assistance in the fulfilling of its duties.

The committee will nominate persons for many offices — president and treasurer of the church, positions on instrumentalities and commissions.

Your recommendations should include, besides the full name and address, local church membership, approximate age and information about the person which the Nominating Committee would find useful. Names of persons from minority groups and small churches, and names of younger churchmen and churchwomen are particularly solicited.

There is a deadline of December 31, 1968 for receiving recommendations. They should be sent to the attention of the Nominating Committee, United Church of Christ, 297 Park Avenue, South, New York, N. Y. 10010.

If there are concerns considered to be of importance for the Nominating Committee's work as a whole, the chairman of the committee will be very glad to have these addressed to him personally.

The Rev. Phillip W. Sarles, Chm.
Nominating Committee
5500 Stevens Ave. South,
Minneapolis, Minn. 55419

Closed On Christmas

There are not many shopping days remaining 'til Christmas — and most stores will be closed on Christmas.

The merchants around town have already made great plans for the Christmas season. Supplies have been ordered, displays have been planned, arrangements for additional personnel have been made — the stores are ready for Christmas.

Many churches, too, will be closed on Christmas. Many have made few preparations for the day when the churches celebrate the coming of their Lord.

Happily, other churches are preparing themselves for meaningful celebrations on Christmas Day.

Veteran Alabama Minister Dies From Injuries

Rev. William J. Hill Sr., one of our faithful ministers over the years, died on October 8, 1968, after suffering a number of months in a Birmingham hospital from accident injuries. Mr. Hill had been struck by a car and critically injured several months ago, although he was not actively serving as a pastor at the time, having retired some months earlier.

Mr. Hill was born in Cropwell, Ala., and attended Talladega College to complete his high schooling, and later his college degree and B. D. degree, after serving in World War I.

Mr. Hill served as minister and teacher in numerous churches and schools in Georgia, as well as Alabama. He served as pastor of King's Chapel and Trinity, Athens.

Mr. Hill is survived by his wife, Mrs. Cora I. Williams Hill, a daughter, a son, and seven grandchildren.

Cullman Church Youth Entertain Football Team

The youth of St. John's United Church of Christ in Cullman, Alabama, had the local high school football team as their guests for the morning worship service October 27.

The service was conducted by the youths.

The Reverend George Fidler is pastor.

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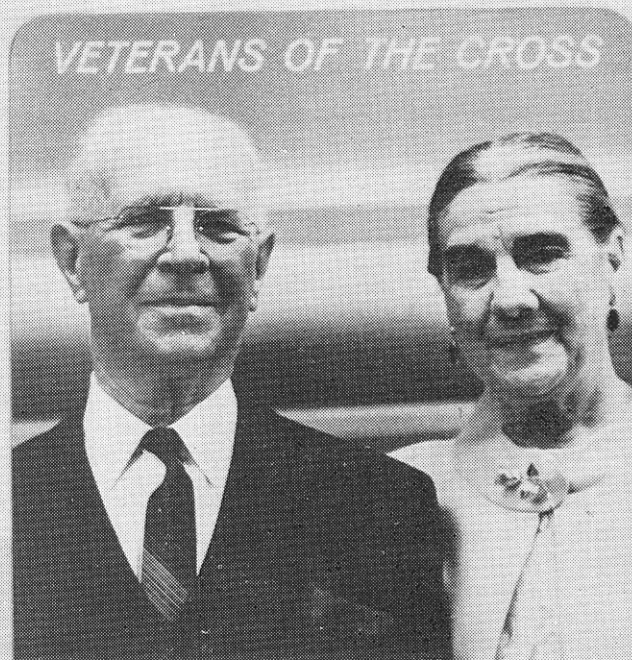
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The Christmas Fund

AFFIRMS THAT
NOTHING SHALL SEPARATE US
FROM THE



MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CHRISTMAS FUND
SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

THE PENSION BOARDS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
287 Park Avenue South • New York, N. Y. 10010

(Above) Dr. Silas P. Bittner retired in June after 53 years in the service of the Church, 25 of those years dedicated to the retirement needs of our ministers. He and Mrs. Bittner, like all our Christmas poster subjects, receive nothing from the Christmas Fund, but symbolize all Veterans of the Cross, including those whose lives are brightened by your gifts.

Centuries ago the Apostle Paul declared that nothing shall separate us from the love of God.

Today a special group of Christians hear the words in a unique context. They are the retired ministers of our fellowship who are in need. Through the annual Christmas Fund appeal thousands of individuals and churches join in reaffirming our fellowship with the heroes of the faith in our time.

Through your gifts The Pension Boards provide direct, tangible help for those with small pensions, based on small salaries, whose purchasing power is reduced by inflation, or whose emergency needs could be devastating. The Christmas Fund goes out in Christmas checks and, when there is need, in emergency grants.

This year all Christmas Fund activity and all emergency relief matters are handled from the unified offices of the Pension Boards. Checks made payable to the Christmas Fund should be sent directly to the Pension Boards - United Church of Christ, 287 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10010

Thanksgiving Meditations

Let us thank the Lord
if there is one
For all He's given us,
if we have anything
And for all we can have,
if we're lucky
In this land of Freedom,
if you're white.

"A Negro Thanksgiving Prayer" by
William Brown, 19, Athol, Mass., from
Youth 1967 (UC Herald, Nov., 1968)

A Time To Be Thankful

War, hunger, poverty, racial prejudice, religious bigotry, militant nationalism, political and economic injustices — these evils, and others, are realities for which we are not grateful.

Living in the midst of them, for what or whom can we be grateful?

For God who is at work in this world, overcoming its evils. For the church where it is at work in this world, allying itself with God in overcoming these evils. For men and institutions who struggle courageously for justice and peace — for the United Nations, for private and public anti-poverty programs, for the blatantly Christian Human Rights organizations, for the youth of the world who have refused to accept these evils as the ways of their lives, for the heroic martyrs of our times. — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and the multitudes of others who have given their lives that truth might be spoken in love, that justice might be the experience of all mankind.

Thinking more of the problem-solvers than the problems; thinking more of the Almighty and His allies than the evils and those who perpetuate them — truly, this is a time to be thankful.

Women Report On Activities

The women of the East Association of Lay Life and Work held two meetings during the year — a spring rally at the Lanett Church and a fall conference at the Todd Church.

The spring rally was an inspirational meeting. The fall conference was a reporting session.

Birmingham Church To Publish Cook Book

The women of Pilgrim Congregational Church in Birmingham, Alabama, are engaged in publishing a United Church of Christ Cook Book. The book will be produced in January, 1969, and will sell for \$4.

Every congregation in the United Church of Christ will be contacted and its women invited to submit recipes. Each woman sending a recipe will receive a free copy of the cook book.

One of the major purposes of the project is to create an awareness within the denomination of the Birmingham church — and as a by-product, the United Church of Christ in the southern states.

Each church will become aware of the existence of the Birmingham church as it receives an invitation to submit recipes and will again be exposed to the church when members receive their cook books.

Profits realized from the sale of the book will be used for Our Christian World Mission and other service projects of the Birmingham church.

Other churches that sell the book will receive \$1 per copy.

For further information, write:

Pilgrim Congregational Church,
3801 Montclair Road,
Birmingham, Alabama 35213

A Church Hears Its Youth

The Youth Fellowship of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., conducted the worship service Sunday, November 3.

The theme of the service was "Youth Is Alive!" The Peanuts cartoon characters, being favorites of the youths, were used to relate the message of the Youth Fellowship.

Posters reflecting the spirit and enthusiasm of the Fellowship were placed in the church.

Following the worship service, the Fellowship remained for lunch at the church and then went into the neighborhood to collect funds for the annual Halloween UNICEF Fund Drive.

Huntsville Church Enters New Building

Sunday, October 20, the Huntsville United Church of Christ entered its new sanctuary for the first time.

The pastor, the Reverend James E. Humphrey, led the service of worship and dedication. In his sermon on "What the Church Needs," he spoke of reinterpreting the faith, responding to the ecumenical spirit and responding to human need as the great needs of the modern day church.

A number of persons participated in the dedication services. They included: Olin Sheppard, moderator of the Southeast Conference; W. J. Andes, conference minister; Miss Emilie Pitcock, minister of Christian Education; Guy L. Colbert, pastor-at-large of the North Alabama Association; Paul Beaird, secretary of the East Alabama Association; and Hubert Richter, past moderator of the Southeast Conference.

The new facilities, erected at a cost of \$86,500, include several classrooms, a pastor's study and church office, and a fellowship hall which serves as the sanctuary. Additional facilities will be needed in the near future for this growing congregation.

Atlanta Churches Seek Significant Mission To The Metropolitan Area

The United Church of Christ congregations in Atlanta are engaged in serious efforts to determine their mission to the metropolitan area.

Cooperating with the United Presbyterian, U. S. A., congregations of the city, they are involved in an action oriented Coordinating Committee. This committee is studying the issues facing the city and ways that the two denominations may effect needed change.

To train church members for mission in the city, the churches are involved in the Urban Organization of Atlanta, an agency funded, in part, by the United Church of Christ.

There are five congregations of the United Church of Christ in the metropolitan Atlanta area.